GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:850
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2005
ENCASHMENT OF BANK GUARANTEE
Pathak Shri Brajesh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "Beena Kuchh Diye Karoro Dakar Gayee" appearing in Dainik Jagran, dated May 31, 2005;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in the matter;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) the action taken against the officials found guilty?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The contract was entered with M/s. HAS, Holland (Now M/s. Thales) in April 1998 for procurement of modification kit for Air Defence (AD) system of Trishul vehicle to provide 'Search on Move Capability' which is a strategic/sensitive requirement for the Air Defence System.

(c) The modification kit for AD system fabricated by M/s. Thales was ready for supply to DRDO. In the meanwhile, India conducted 'Pokhran' Nuclear test in 1998, the Netherland Government did not issue the export license to supply the above item to DRDO, India.

(d) In this regard, the several rounds of talks were held with the vendor for supply of these items. As a result of the persistent pursuance efforts, now M/s. Thales has obtained the export license from Government of Netherland to supply the modification kit to DRDO. The shipment is ready and expected to be received any time by DRDO.